

**United Proclamation of the Gospel
&
St. John's Windish Lutheran Church
Scripture and Prayers during Coronavirus Pandemic**

Monday October 12, 2020

Isaiah 25:1-9

¹O LORD, you are my God;
I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
²For you have made the city a heap,
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of aliens is a city no more,
it will never be rebuilt.
³Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
⁴For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
⁵the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.
⁶On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.
⁷And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
⁸he will swallow up death forever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
⁹It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, In Your great mercy, You have shared with us all the bounty of the land. You have provided shelter in the stormy seas of life and wipe away the tears from our faces. You and You alone are our God, we have waited for You in order that we would be saved. You come among us in profound and powerful ways and we are glad and rejoice in Your never ending salvation. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Additional prayers: Calm to children who are fearful from all they hear and see around them
Patience in times of school closures
Guidance for school administrators as they make decisions

Parents as they contemplate how to safely educate children

Tuesday October 13, 2020

Psalm 60

- ¹ You have rejected us, O God, and broken our defenses.
You have been angry with us; now restore us to your favor.
- ² You have shaken our land and split it open.
Seal the cracks, for the land trembles.
- ³ You have been very hard on us,
making us drink wine that sent us reeling.
- ⁴ But you have raised a banner for those who fear you—
a rallying point in the face of attack.
- ⁵ Now rescue your beloved people.
Answer and save us by your power.
- ⁶ God has promised this by his holiness:
“I will divide up Shechem with joy.
I will measure out the valley of Succoth.
⁷ Gilead is mine,
and Manasseh, too.
Ephraim, my helmet, will produce my warriors,
and Judah, my scepter, will produce my kings.
- ⁸ But Moab, my washbasin, will become my servant,
and I will wipe my feet on Edom
and shout in triumph over Philistia.”
- ⁹ Who will bring me into the fortified city?
Who will bring me victory over Edom?
¹⁰ Have you rejected us, O God?
Will you no longer march with our armies?
- ¹¹ Oh, please help us against our enemies,
for all human help is useless.
- ¹² With God’s help we will do mighty things,
for he will trample down our foes.

Prayer: Holy Lord, in the moments of life when we feel overwhelmed with foes, whether those foes be circumstances of our life, illnesses, or mortal enemies, send Your guidance into our lives to direct our ways in response. Let us thank You Lord and allow our voices to be lifted in Your praise at all times! For indeed, Your steadfast love reaches us all! We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ our risen Lord and Savior. Amen.

Some Additional prayers during this time:

Workers who are anxious about the safety of their workplaces
Uncertainty in how work will be accomplished in the days ahead
Calm and guidance amid financial uncertainties

Wednesday October 14, 2020

PSALM: 23

- ¹The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
- ²The LORD makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
- ³You restore my soul, O LORD,
and guide me along right pathways for your name's sake.
- ⁴Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- ⁵You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- ⁶Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, You are our shepherd and our Lord, we wait upon Your guidance to place our feet on the paths You would have us walk. You provide us comfort and anoint us with Your Spirit and our lives are lived in an abundance of Your love, Continue to guide us in all of our days. We ask these things in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Risen Lord and Savior. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

Government institutions and municipal agencies:
Prayers for Times of Public Health Concern: COVID-19/Coronavirus
Guidance when making decisions for our communities

Thursday October 15, 2020

Psalms 61

- ¹ O God, listen to my cry!
Hear my prayer!
- ² From the ends of the earth,
I cry to you for help
when my heart is overwhelmed.
Lead me to the towering rock of safety,
- ³ for you are my safe refuge,
a fortress where my enemies cannot reach me.
- ⁴ Let me live forever in your sanctuary,
safe beneath the shelter of your wings! *Interlude*
- ⁵ For you have heard my vows, O God.
You have given me an inheritance reserved for those who fear your name.
- ⁶ Add many years to the life of the king!
May his years span the generations!
- ⁷ May he reign under God's protection forever.
May your unfailing love and faithfulness watch over him.
- ⁸ Then I will sing praises to your name forever
as I fulfill my vows each day.

Prayer: God of peace, You have appointed those in authority over us. Our parents, our teachers, our pastors, our political leaders. Grant them all wisdom in pursuing their vocations, all them to be protected by Your faithfulness and unfailing love and allow them to be instruments of Your peace and justice in all the land. In Jesus' name we pray these things. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

Hospitals, nursing homes, other health care facilities
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Friday October 16, 2020

Philippians 4:1-9

¹My brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

²I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord. ³Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

⁴Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

⁸Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. ⁹Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

Prayer: Gracious God, we rejoice in You always! Allow Your gentleness to be known in all we do and say. Take away our fears and worries and replace them all with supplications of thanksgiving and in trust for Your great gifts. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

Houses of worship and their ministries at this time
For all who travel
For all who grieve the loss of loved ones

Saturday October 17, 2020

Psalms 62

¹I wait quietly before God,
for my victory comes from him.

²He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress where I will never be shaken.

³So many enemies against one man—
all of them trying to kill me.

To them I'm just a broken-down wall

or a tottering fence.
⁴ They plan to topple me from my high position.
They delight in telling lies about me.
They praise me to my face
but curse me in their hearts. *Interlude*
⁵ Let all that I am wait quietly before God,
for my hope is in him.
⁶ He alone is my rock and my salvation,
my fortress where I will not be shaken.
⁷ My victory and honor come from God alone.
He is my refuge, a rock where no enemy can reach me.
⁸ O my people, trust in him at all times.
Pour out your heart to him,
for God is our refuge. *Interlude*
⁹ Common people are as worthless as a puff of wind,
and the powerful are not what they appear to be.
If you weigh them on the scales,
together they are lighter than a breath of air.
¹⁰ Don't make your living by extortion
or put your hope in stealing.
And if your wealth increases,
don't make it the center of your life.
¹¹ God has spoken plainly,
and I have heard it many times:
Power, O God, belongs to you;
¹² unfailing love, O Lord, is yours.
Surely you repay all people
according to what they have done.

Prayer: Almighty Lord, be gracious to us and allow our sure hope and confidence in Your promises be our foundation. When the world utters against Your holy name, grant us wisdom to share Your peace. When others work against issues of justice grant us Your words and Spirit to deny them. We render our thanks to You, for You and You alone are the source of our lives and desire to bring us all to Your everlasting light. In Jesus' name we pray these things. Amen.

Some additional prayers

The World Health Organization
Medical researchers and scientists
All the animals that are used in medical research to benefit our lives

Sunday October 18, 2020

Matthew 22:1-14

¹Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: ²"The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' ⁵But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸Then he said to

his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' ¹⁰Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

¹¹"But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹²and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. ¹³Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' ¹⁴For many are called, but few are chosen."

Prayer Lord of the feast, You have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out Your life with abundance. Call us again to Your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

Monday October 19, 2020

Isaiah 45:1-7

¹Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped
to subdue nations before him
and strip kings of their robes,
to open doors before him—
and the gates shall not be closed:
²I will go before you
and level the mountains,
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
³I will give you the treasures of darkness
and riches hidden in secret places,
so that you may know that it is I, the LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.
⁴For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I surname you, though you do not know me.
⁵I am the LORD, and there is no other;
besides me there is no god.
I arm you, though you do not know me,
⁶so that they may know, from the rising of the sun
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
⁷I form light and create darkness,
I make weal and create woe;
I the LORD do all these things.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, In Your great mercy, You have shared with us all the bounty of the land. Yet, in our sinfulness, we have often abused the land. Creation herself and all of her inhabitants. Be gracious and merciful to us. Strengthen our resolve that in all we do and in all we say that we may tend Your creation and all that lives within her confines with steadfast love. We ask these things in Jesus' name. Amen.

Additional prayers: Calm to children who are fearful from all they hear and see around them
Patience in times of school closures
Guidance for school administrators as they make decisions
Parents as they contemplate how to safely educate children

Tuesday October 20, 2020

Psalm 96:1-9

- ¹Sing to the LORD a new song;
sing to the LORD, all the earth.
²Sing to the LORD, bless the name of the LORD;
proclaim God's salvation from day to day.
³Declare God's glory among the nations
and God's wonders among all peoples.
⁴For great is the LORD and greatly to be praised,
more to be feared than all gods.
⁵As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;
but you, O LORD, have made the heavens.
⁶Majesty and magnificence are in your presence;
power and splendor are in your sanctuary.
⁷Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples,
ascribe to the LORD honor and power.
⁸Ascribe to the LORD the honor due the holy name;
bring offerings and enter the courts of the LORD.
⁹Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness;
tremble before the LORD, all the earth.

Prayer: Holy Lord, all our voices to be lifted to sing a new song in Your name! Help our lives to declare Your glory among the peoples, for You are great! Your wonders abound throughout creation! Allow our lives to give honor to Your holy name. We ask these things in the name of Jesus Christ our risen Lord and Savior. Amen.

Some Additional prayers during this time:

Workers who are anxious about the safety of their workplaces
Uncertainty in how work will be accomplished in the days ahead
Calm and guidance amid financial uncertainties

Wednesday October 21, 2020

PSALM: 63

- ¹ O God, you are my God;
I earnestly search for you.
My soul thirsts for you;
my whole body longs for you
in this parched and weary land

where there is no water.
² I have seen you in your sanctuary
and gazed upon your power and glory.
³ Your unfailing love is better than life itself;
how I praise you!
⁴ I will praise you as long as I live,
lifting up my hands to you in prayer.
⁵ You satisfy me more than the richest feast.
I will praise you with songs of joy.
⁶ I lie awake thinking of you,
meditating on you through the night.
⁷ Because you are my helper,
I sing for joy in the shadow of your wings.
⁸ I cling to you;
your strong right hand holds me securely.
⁹ But those plotting to destroy me will come to ruin.
They will go down into the depths of the earth.
¹⁰ They will die by the sword
and become the food of jackals.
¹¹ But the king will rejoice in God.
All who swear to tell the truth will praise him,
while liars will be silenced.

Prayer: Gracious Lord, All that we view belongs to You! You have stretched forth the skies and the earth. Indeed we and all that we know are Yours. Look upon Your children with grace and mercy, that we would always know and feel Your unending love. We ask these things in the name of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Risen Lord and Savior. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

Government institutions and municipal agencies:
Prayers for Times of Public Health Concern: COVID-19/Coronavirus
Guidance when making decisions for our communities

Thursday October 22, 2020

Psalm 64

¹ O God, listen to my complaint.
Protect my life from my enemies' threats.
² Hide me from the plots of this evil mob,
from this gang of wrongdoers.
³ They sharpen their tongues like swords
and aim their bitter words like arrows.
⁴ They shoot from ambush at the innocent,
attacking suddenly and fearlessly.
⁵ They encourage each other to do evil
and plan how to set their traps in secret.
"Who will ever notice?" they ask.
⁶ As they plot their crimes, they say,

“We have devised the perfect plan!”
Yes, the human heart and mind are cunning.
⁷ But God himself will shoot them with his arrows,
suddenly striking them down.
⁸ Their own tongues will ruin them,
and all who see them will shake their heads in scorn.
⁹ Then everyone will be afraid;
they will proclaim the mighty acts of God
and realize all the amazing things he does.
¹⁰ The godly will rejoice in the LORD
and find shelter in him.
And those who do what is right
will praise him.

Prayer: God of justice; there are many within our midst who suffer from injustice and as Your children we know in our hearts that You desire all people to be treated with respect and dignity. Give us discerning hearts and minds and embolden us with Your voice, that we might be advocates for all those who are in need. In Jesus’ name we pray these things. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

Hospitals, nursing homes, other health care facilities
The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Friday October 23, 2020

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

¹Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers,
constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and
steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by
God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word
only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind
of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators of us and of
the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy
Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the
word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every
place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the
people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you
turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven,
whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Prayer: Gracious God, In Your great wisdom You have given us people in our lives who have modelled the way of faith. We give thanks and prayers for those who modelled the faith for us. We pray that Your comforting arms would surround all those we love and have come to You before us and we pray that at the appropriate time, You would bring us to our everlasting home in the company of all Your saints. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Some additional prayers during this time:

Houses of worship and their ministries at this time
For all who travel
For all who grieve the loss of loved ones

Saturday October 24, 2020

Psalm 65

¹ What mighty praise, O God,
belongs to you in Zion.
We will fulfill our vows to you,
² for you answer our prayers.
All of us must come to you.
³ Though we are overwhelmed by our sins,
you forgive them all.
⁴ What joy for those you choose to bring near,
those who live in your holy courts.
What festivities await us
inside your holy Temple.
⁵ You faithfully answer our prayers with awesome deeds,
O God our savior.
You are the hope of everyone on earth,
even those who sail on distant seas.
⁶ You formed the mountains by your power
and armed yourself with mighty strength.
⁷ You quieted the raging oceans
with their pounding waves
and silenced the shouting of the nations.
⁸ Those who live at the ends of the earth
stand in awe of your wonders.
From where the sun rises to where it sets,
you inspire shouts of joy.
⁹ You take care of the earth and water it,
making it rich and fertile.
The river of God has plenty of water;
it provides a bountiful harvest of grain,
for you have ordered it so.
¹⁰ You drench the plowed ground with rain,
melting the clods and leveling the ridges.
You soften the earth with showers
and bless its abundant crops.
¹¹ You crown the year with a bountiful harvest;
even the hard pathways overflow with abundance.
¹² The grasslands of the wilderness become a lush pasture,
and the hillsides blossom with joy.
¹³ The meadows are clothed with flocks of sheep,
and the valleys are carpeted with grain.
They all shout and sing for joy!

Prayer: Thank You Lord for everything. In Jesus' name we pray these things. Amen.

Some additional prayers

The World Health Organization

Medical researchers and scientists

All the animals that are used in medical research to benefit our lives

Sunday October 25, 2020

Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap [Jesus] in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Prayer: Sovereign God, raise Your throne in our hearts. Created by You, let us live in Your image; created for You, let us act for Your glory; redeemed by You, let us give You what is Yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.